

Message Text

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12

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /016 W
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R 060854Z AUG 75
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0002
INFO USIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OEXC, BU
SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL WRITING PROGRAM (IWP)

FOR CU

REF: SOFIA 1588

1. UNION OF BULGARIAN WRITERS HAS SWITCHED SIGNALS, NOW ADVISES BOZHILOV KNOWS "ENOUGH ENGLISH TO COPE WITH" IWP. HE REPORTEDLY HAS TRANSLATED SHAKESPEARE'S "RICHARD III." P&C OFFICER HAS ASKED TO INTERVIEW BOZHILOV, BUT LATTER IS OUT OF SOFIA UNTIL SOMETIME NEXT WEEK. HIS BIODATA (COMING VIA OFFICIAL AIR) LOOKS GOOD.

2. AS DEPT IS AWARE, WE GIVE THIS PROGRAM LOW PRIORITY. HOWEVER, ENGLE AND MACGREGOR-HASTIE HAVE PUT US INTO EMBARRASSING POSITION, BY NOT BEING ADEQUATELY CLEAR TO BULGARIANS ON WHO IS EXPECTED TO FUND WHAT AND ON WHAT MUST BE DONE TO OBTAIN EMBASSY/DEPT GRANT. BULGARIANS HAVE BEEN LEFT WITH IMPRESSION THAT ALL THEY NEEDED TO DO WAS ASK US FOR GRANT, AND WE WOULD COME THROUGH. WE TOLD HASTIE ONLY THAT, "IF BULGARIANS CAME TO US, WE'D SEE WHAT WE COULD DO."

3. CONSIDERING THIS SITUATION AND FACT THAT BOZHILOV SEEMS WELL QUALIFIED, AND PRESUMING HIS ENGLISH STANDS UP IN PERSONAL INTERVIEW, WE RECOMMEND DEPT APPROVE GRANT FOR BOZHILOV FOR IWP ONLY; WHETHER TO OFFER INTERNATIONAL
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VISITOR-TYPE PARTICIPATION IN IWP. AS WITH MOST IV

GRANTEES, WE WOULD ASK BULGARIANS TO FUND HIS TRAVEL
TO/FROM FRANKFURT, PARIS OR LONDON, WITH USG PROVIDING
TRANS-ATLANTIC TRAVEL TO/FROM IOWA CITY.

4. IF DEPT APPROVES, PLEASE CABLE FISCAL DATA.

5. FYI: BOZHILOV MAY BE UNABLE MAKE SEPT 1 ARRIVAL IN
IOWA CITY. WHAT IS LATEST DATE IWP WILL ACCEPT HIM?
HERZ

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NNN

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